

I am a parent in the Thornapple Kellogg (Middleville) school district with a current third grader. Unfortunately, I am in the position of seeking outside tutoring for my child because he is behind in reading. I have worked with the schools and his previous teachers, but do not feel he has received the attention or instruction necessary for him to be reading at grade level. My husband and I are in the position of going outside the school district to obtain those resources for him. We are seeking tutoring lessons from the organization Sylvan Learning Centers to help our son. Therefore, I strongly encourage the House Education Committee pass HB 5111 in its current form.

This is not the first time I have had to pay money out of my pocket to hire Sylvan to tutor my children. I have an older child who was behind earlier in her school career and also learned from a Sylvan instructor. What was discovered through that process was my child simply was not being taught the lessons students in other districts were being taught. She had the knowledge to do the work, she was simply never shown. As soon as she was shown the work at Sylvan, she could do it and successfully passed a test. I do not want to continue to be put in this position throughout the duration of my children's education.

Our schools need to be held accountable for teaching our children and use the proper resources to do so.

Thank you for your consideration,

-Jeanie